

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A light transmitting filter comprising:
 - a) a light absorbing layer of material having a front surface and a back surface,
 - (b) transparent microspheres embedded in the light absorbing layer and contacting the front surface of the light absorbing layer with portions of the microspheres protruding through the back surface of the light absorbing layer for transmitting light through the light absorbing layer, and
 - (c) a conformed layer of optically clear material having a front surface and a back surface wherein the front surface of the conformed layer is in contact with and conforming in shape with the protruding portions of the microspheres, and wherein the back surface of the conformed layer has a textured finish.
2. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the light absorbing layer comprises a polymeric material and at least one pigment or colorant.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the microspheres are glass microspheres having a diameter of from about 25 to about 300 microns.
5. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the conformed layer has an average thickness of from about 2.5 microns to about 270 microns.
6. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the conformed layer is substantially uniform in thickness and has an average thickness in the range of from about 2.5 microns to about 270 microns.
7. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the front surface of the light absorbing layer is adhered to an optically clear support layer.

8. (Cancelled)
9. (Original) The filter of claim 1 further comprising a polymeric tie layer between the clear conformed layer and the back surface of the light absorbing layer.
10. (Original) The filter of claim 1 wherein the textured finish is a matte finish.
11. (Original) A light transmitting filter comprising:
- (A) a light absorbing layer of material having a front surface and a back surface,
 - (B) a monolayer of transparent microspheres embedded in the light absorbing layer and contacting the front surface of the light absorbing layer, with portions of the microspheres protruding through the back surface of the light absorbing layer thereby providing light tunnels for transmitting light through the light absorbing layer, and
 - (C) a conformed layer of optically clear polymeric material having a front surface and a back surface wherein the front surface of the conformed layer is in contact with and conforming in shape with the protruding portions of the microspheres, and wherein the back surface of the conformed layer has a textured finish.
12. (Original) The filter of claim 11 wherein the light absorbing layer has a thickness of about 10% to about 60% of the average diameter of the microsphere.
13. (Original) The light filter of claim 11 wherein the microspheres are glass microspheres which have a refractive index of from about 1.4 to about 2.3.
14. (Original) The filter of claim 11 in which the monolayer of transparent microspheres are generally covering from about 60% to about 90% of the surface area of the light absorbing layer.

15. (Original) The filter of claim 11 in which the transparent microspheres have an average diameter of from about 25 to about 300 microns and the microspheres vary in diameter through the range of less than 50% of the average diameter of the microspheres.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The filter of claim 11 wherein the front surface of the light absorbing layer of the filter is adhered to an optically clear support layer.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The filter of claim 11 wherein the textured finish is a matte finish.

22-54 (Cancelled)